GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4449
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
UNUTILISATION OF FUNDS IN NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the funds remain unspent under the IRDP, TRSEM, SITRA,DWCRA and GKY during the Ninth Five Plan period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government has discontinued these schemes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether there has been a steep decline in the number of beneficiaries under the various schemes meant for self employment in Maharashtra particularly in Vidharbha region; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (d): The programmes captioned IRDP,TRYSEM,DWCRA, SITRA & GKY were merged into Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) with effect from 1.4.1999 and the unspent balances, under these programmes were pooled under SGSY and utilized as per the new guidelines. The multiplicity of programmes prior to merger resulted in the lack of proper social intermediation, absence of desired linkages among these programmes inter-se and the emphasis is on achieving numerical targets rather than focusing on the substantive result of sustainable income generation. SGSY is the restructured and integrated self-employment programme which is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment such as organization of the poor into Self Help Groups(SHGs), training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing .

(e) During 2001-2002 and 2002-03 there was a decline in total number of assisted Swarozgaris in Maharashtra including Vidharbha region. However, during 2003-04, the number of assisted Swarozgaris has increased to 60659 from 55442 in 2002- 2003.

(f) The SGSY is a process oriented scheme with focus on group approach. During initial years of implementation group approach took time to establish and therefore there was an apparent decline in assistance to the beneficiaries. However the number of assisted Swarozgaris has now started showing an increasing trend .